

REMARKS

Claims 1-71 were pending in the present application prior to the submission of the present Amendment. Claims 11, 21, 42 and 52 stand allowed. Claims 26 and 62-65 stand allowable but objected to. Claims 1-10, 12-20, 22-25, 27-41, 43-51, 53-61 and 66-71 stand rejected. Claims 1-2, 9, 12-14, 28-33, 43-45, 47, 54, and 68 are hereby canceled without prejudice to further prosecution on the merits in a continuation or divisional application. Claims 3-6, 10, 15-18, 20, 34-36, 40-41, 46, 48-49, 52-53, 55-56, 62, 66, 69 and 71 are hereby amended. The present response reduces the number of total claims to 53 (71 total claims previously paid for) and increases the total of independent claims to 17 (12 independent claims previously paid for), so that after entry of the present response 53 total claims and 17 independent claims remain pending. A credit card authorization for excess claim fees are attached. No new matter is added hereby.

This paper is submitted responsive to an interview conducted between the Examiner and the undersigned taking place October 8, 2009, and a further telephone conference with the Examiner subsequent to the submission of Applicants' Statement of the Substance of the Examiner Interview (hereafter "Applicants' Statement") filed November 9th, 2009. During the telephonic interview and subsequent conference, the Examiner and the undersigned discussed proposed claim amendments and agreed upon claim language that would render specific claims allowable if submitted in a formal amendment. As noted in the Applicants' Statement, and at the Examiner's suggestion, Applicants hereby submit a formal amendment that incorporates the claim revisions discussed during the telephonic interview (and subsequent conference) that the Examiner agreed would thereby overcome the standing rejections and render the remaining pending claims allowable.

As noted in the Examiner's Interview Summary dated October 9th, 2009, several of the pending claims were discussed and the Examiner and the undersigned discussed proposed claim amendments (*i.e.*, specific definitional claim language) that would render the claims allowable in the Examiner's opinion. Agreement was reached regarding precise claim language that would place the claims into allowable condition. The Examiner indicated that claims that included specific suggested claim language (either by amending pending claims, or in some cases, without amendment) would be rendered allowable over the prior art of record after Applicants submitted the present amendment. The specific claim language indicated by the Examiner that render existing and amended claims allowable included the following terms: "capacitive coupling", "capacitively coupled", "capacitively coupling", "coupled capacitively", and the like. The Examiner stated that claims including this definitional language, or amended to include such definitional language, would thereby be rendered allowable.

The presently amended claims reflect the claim amendments discussed with and suggested by the Examiner. The listing of claims also includes pending claims that were considered to be allowable by the

Examiner without amendment because the suggested definitional claim language is present in the non-amended pending claims.

For example, Claims 1-2 are now cancelled, and Claims 3-6 are presently amended to be in independent form including all of the limitations of the cancelled claims, and are further amended to include the term "capacitive coupling". Other claims are similarly amended to include one of the following terms: "capacitive coupling", "capacitive coupling circuitry", "capacitive coupling circuits", "capacitively coupled" and "coupled capacitively". For example, see the amendments to Claims 10 (currently amended to include the term "capacitively coupling"), 18 (currently amended to include the term "coupled capacitively", as opposed to "coupled passively"), and 49 (currently amended to include the term "capacitively coupled", as opposed to "passively coupled"). With the caveat that some of the following claims are amended to be in independent form because they depend from a cancelled claim, the Examiner stated that the following claims would be allowable (*i.e.*, either no amendment was necessary to render the claim allowable, or the claim only needed to be amended to be in independent form including all of the limitations of a cancelled claim) because the claim included the definitional claim language described above: Claims 5-6, 24-27, 35, 46, 55-56, 60-61, and 63.

The claim amendments set forth above in the listing of the claims are made in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions in order to expedite allowance of the present application. At the Applicants' request, the Examiner carefully reviewed claim amendments proposed by the Applicants as set forth in the Applicants' Statement filed November 9th, 2009. The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for his assistance and diligence in reviewing the proposed claim amendments. During a subsequent telephone conference with the Examiner, with the exception of minor informalities found in proposed claims 15, 20, 34, 52, 66, the Examiner confirmed that the proposed claim amendments rendered the claims allowable of the prior art of record. The Examiner suggested further amending claims 15, 20, 34, 52 and 66 to overcome certain informalities found in these proposed claims. Applicants hereby amend the claims as suggested by the Examiner.

No new matter is added hereby. Support for the claim amendments can be found throughout Applicants' specification as filed and in the originally filed claims.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments and remarks set forth above overcome each ground of rejection and objections raised by the Examiner. As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application, to withdraw all current rejections and objections, and, barring the discovery of new grounds for rejection or objection, to promptly issue a Notice of Allowance of all claims.

The Commissioner is authorized to construe this paper as including a petition to extend the period of response by the number of months necessary to make this paper timely filed. Fees or deficiencies required to cause the response to be complete and timely filed may be charged, and any overpayments should be credited, to our Deposit Account No. **50-0490**.

Respectfully submitted,

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